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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

Kunihiko MIWA, Takuji
MATSUSHIBA, and Kazuyoshi
TANAKA

Serial No.: 09/439,264

Filed: November 12, 1999

Atty. File No.: JA9-98-171

For: "METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR CONTROLLING DIGITAL
DATA"

Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Response to Restriction Requirement:

In response to the office communication mailed on 12/31/02 by the Examiner in charge of the above-identified patent application, in which office communication restriction was required between Group-I claims 21-24, 27-29 and 32-34 and Group-II claims 25, 26, 30 and 31 of this patent application, applicants select Group-I claims for consideration by the Examiner.

Cancellation of the Group-II Claims:

Please cancel Group-II claims 25, 26, 30 and 31, subject to the filing of a divisional patent application that will be directed to the subject matter that is defend by the Group-II claims.

) Art Unit: 3621
)
) Examiner: Backer, Firmin
)
) Confirmation No.: 1450
)
) REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
)

<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</p> <p>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231 ON <u>Jan 23, 2003</u>.</p> <p align="center">HOLLAND & HART LLP</p> <p>BY: <u>[Signature]</u></p>

REGISTERED

JAN 31 2003

GROUP 3600